Relief assistance to Maharashtra

†4867. SHRIDATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the relief and assistance package worth Rs. 22S0 crore has been provided to the flood and drought affected areas and the States of the country;

(b) if so, the share of Maharashtra therein and the details of development work on which the same is likely to be incurred; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ID. SWAMI): (a) An assistance of Rs. 4549.31 crore had been approved for undertaking relief measures to States affected by floods and drought during 2002-03. Of this Rs. 2121.75 crore were released from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) and the balance amount was available under the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) to which the Central Government contributes 75%.

(b) and (c) In case of Maharashtra, a request was received for assistance for providing relief measures after the floods in Jume, 2002. The request was examined. As the State Government had adequate funds under Calamity Relief Fund, no assistance was required to be released from NCCF. The expenditure on development work or for restoration of infrastructure is required to be met out of the State Plan funds as per the CRF and NCCF Schemes which are based on the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission.

Seizure of Opium

†4868. PROF. R.B.S VARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the year-wise details of the quantity of opium seized from smugglers during the last three years;

(b) the number of smugglers arrested for opium-smuggling during the last three years; and

(c) the number of foreign and Indian smugglers separately out of above?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.